

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 132

March 8, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Defines “birth certificate” or “certificate of birth” as only those certificates issued by the state or territories of the U.S. Requires the data required for issuance of birth, rather than the certificate of birth, to be filed with the Office of Vital Records within ten days of a live birth. Requires the mother of a child born in Tennessee to provide “verification documentation” and sign an attestation to the accuracy of her personal data, unless the father of the child provides such information, signs a voluntary acknowledgment of paternity and a written agreement to provide financial support until the child reaches the age of eighteen. Defines “verification documentation” as a signed social security card, federally issued work authorization, Tennessee driver’s license, or a driver’s license from another state requiring proof of lawful presence in the U.S. as a condition for a driver’s license. Authorizes application for a delayed certificate of birth if the parent or guardian fails to provide necessary information within ten days of birth. Requires that when a birth occurs in or en route to an institution, a representative of the institution shall obtain the data necessary for the certificate of birth, certify the live birth at the place and time stated either by signature or electronically, and file the data with the Office of Vital Records within ten days. Voids the report of foundling registration in case of a foundling who is subsequently identified and for whom a certificate of birth is found.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures – \$43,600/One-Time
\$174,200/Recurring**

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Health (DOH), there are approximately 90,000 births in Tennessee each year. Each birth would require validation of the mother’s or father’s verification documentation.
- Primary burden of validating and maintaining the residency documentation will be placed with the birthing facilities. DOH will audit compliance with requirements set in statute.
- The Office of Vital Records will revise form PH-1675 (Tennessee Department of Health Mother’s Worksheet for Child’s Birth Certificate) and develop a new form for the attestation of the accuracy of parent’s documentation.
- The Office of Vital Records will hire one field representative to provide two days of training to the staff at each of the 80 birthing hospitals on the requirements of the law, how to verify documentation and obtain the signed attestation form, and how to

complete the revised Mother's Worksheet. In addition, the field representative will travel to the birthing centers to conduct periodic audits to confirm that the appropriate verification documentation is being collected.

- The Office of Vital Records will hire two vital records information assistants to process the increased number of delayed certificates of birth and to record and file the verification documentation and attestation forms received from the hospitals.
- Recurring costs for DOH will be \$174,239 for salaries (\$35,754 for one field representative; \$58,128 for two information assistants), benefits (\$37,957), administrative costs (\$23,700), office space (\$12,300), network connections (\$4,600), and office supplies (\$1,800).
- One-time costs will be \$43,600 consisting of field training (\$15,000), travel (\$10,000), office landscaping (\$8,100), computer costs (\$7,500), and printing forms (\$3,000).

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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